The MISSIONARY HERALD Newsletter

UNITED CHURCH BOARD FOR WORLD MINISTRIES
475 Riverside Drive, New York, N. Y. 10027

Vol. X, No. 5 Spring, 1969

OK LIBRARY
FIC SCHOOL

LOVE OR PERISH

Excerpts from the report by Dr. Reginald H. Helfferich of his Africa trip, November 3 - January 5, 1969

ETHIOPIA

About nine years ago, Church World Service was invited to go to Ethiopia. The Emperor was concerned about social conditions in his country. Four years ago a start was made in response to this request. There was a large concentration of refugees from the Sudan in an inaccessible area of southwest Ethiopia. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees had asked CWS to provide emergency food and other necessities. Church World Service agreed. Airflights were arranged to parachute air drops of supplies. Ways were found to transport the supplies by land and volunteer staff took charge of the program.

This operation of a group of Christian churches; the involvement of the small Presbyterian Church in Addis; the study and discussion of the program in the Orthodox Theological Seminary, the interest and support of the program by the Emperor ... provided a natural opening to the leadership of the Ethiopian Church. To the surprise of everyone, there were interested and welcomed conversations, and blessings were given to the undertaking and concept.

The joy and grace of feeding the hungry and binding up the wounds of the neighbor and stranger began to perform its miracle. Now there is an Inter-Church Aid Office of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church.

Invited to address the students of the Orthodox Theological Seminary at prayers, I spoke of CWS and kindred activities in Western Communions as the refinding of the ancient ministry of Diakonia. After prayers the Dean did his best to assure us that this concept of Diakonia always had been held by their church but confessed that there had been a renewed interest recently because of tragic needs among the poor.

There are several very exciting expressions with Ethiopian coworkers soon ready to take over: the work among Sudan refugees is now extended to Ethiopian farmers and villages in the western areas; a simple school at Zwai to train Ethiopian church leaders and school teachers in rudimentary agriculture, wood

and metal work, on land contributed by the Orthodox Church. It has a trained Ethiopian agriculturist as director, but is staffed for the most part by volunteers from the U.S. and England.

Radcliffe and Harvard University students have an organization called Volunteer Teachers for Africa (VTS). An independent organization, they enlist, screen and make available a corps of volunteers every year. They have supplied teachers for the Mozambique Institute. Having more volunteers than openings, and seeing the work of CWS in Africa, each year they offer the services of a dozen or more volunteers.

DJIBUTI (Formerly French Somalia)

The closing of the Suez Canal has made the former flourishing port city of Djibuti one great festering sore. The whole city is a disaster situation. CIMADE (French Church World Service with which we have worked since 1948) asked CWS for help. The UCBWM helped set up a sort of one room Casa Mia near the port. British Christian Aid and Brod fur die Welt provided funds to build a church cum Foyer in the center of town. This is a place to study, with tutors, sports activities, counselling, a chaplain - a young French pastor doing Alternate Service (CO). The government has recognized the importance of the service and from July 1st will take over the financing of the program.

MADAGASCAR

Mission work in Madagascar is finished. The Church is established. Within 50 miles of Tananarive one can see more church spires and towers than anywhere else in the world. Now the task is to open the doors of the churches to the world outside. There is a good bit of Christian idol destroying needed on that great island republic. The program of Diakonia there has brought churches together.

NAIROBI

I met "Prexy" Nesbitt, an American Negro student in Nairobi, Kenya. Ed Hawley had introduced us in Cincinnati at General Synod. He was seeking some place where he might become involved outside the U.S. He was helping Kodwo Ankrah with work for refugees under the All Africa Conference of Churches. He wanted to go on to join Ed Hawley in Dar es Salaam, but the arrival of new groups of refugee students meant he would have to remain in Kenya. Kodwo Ankrah had been director of Ghanaian Christian Social Committee until called to help the All Africa Conference of Churches. While he was a student in the U.S. some years ago, he met and married an American Negro girl from Mississippi. Today the Kenya Government has a Minister and Deputy Minister of Social Welfare. The third person in line of command and the person who directs the work of the Ministry is Mrs. Kodwo Ankrah.

RHODESIA

Before leaving for Africa I confess that my courage, enthusiasm, hope and possibly my faith was at a pretty low ebb. In Salisbury, Jack Grant met me at the airport. Just that meeting was enough to lift one's spirits for months. Jack outlined some needs: $30,000 to aid 15,000 people in a starvation situation as the result of protracted drought; development of water resources, especially for the Mt. Silinda area; vaccines for an epidemic of measles; aid for restrictees. (See news item about the Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole being found guilty of treason

The experience that uplifted my spirits was a visit to the Cold Comfort Farm. This is a colonial estate converted into a training center for agriculture, wood and metal work, and auto and tractor mechanics. This is a fellowship where one feels the African student is the really important person. We met the students before we met the teachers. There are university students who come to Cold Comfort Farm to work as volunteers - work with their hands - a most extraordinary thing, since there is a tradition against physical labor, especially for students.

BOTSWANA

This is another country - when it was Bechuanaland, before it became independent Botswana - where the UCBWM made seed money available. A young British volunteer was working in Mochudi and a South African refugee was setting up a school near Swaneng Hill. No major agency was providing support for the programs. The churches of the area were hardly aware of these service programs. Through CWS we provided some modest support in funds, seeds, tools and Heifer Project farm animals.

When the late Z. K. Matthews, at that time Africa Secretary for the World Council of Churches, was appointed Ambassador to the U.S. and Representative to the United Nations for Botswana, interest and support came from many sides. The programs were well established and so we could use the personnel and material support that were offered.

The churches of Botswana formed a Christian Council to act as an Ecumenical Christian Social Work Committee and the work has prospered. The new government turned to these programs for counsel and assistance as it built its new organizations and departments for education, health, welfare and social work services. The position of the churches in the life of this developing new nation is unique in its immediate cooperation with the government. The speed with which the churches are responding to the challenges to help their new nation is breathtaking.

Central to the education of most of the schools springing up, is the serious effort to equip students with not only the necessary knowledge and skills, but also with a sense of commitment and responsibility to make their knowledge and to imbue students with concern and motivation to improve the lot of the less privileged around them, has proven to discourage the notion that education is just a ladder on which ambition climbs to privilege.

Students make an extensive study (theoretical and historical) of how underdeveloped, primitive economies have been transformed into developed, modern economies; specific needs of Botswana and its potential for development. All students are required to take practical courses in agriculture, science, technical drawing, woodwork, metal work, domestic science and needlework. Faculty and students work side by side to overcome the usual absolute disdain for manual work.

Reginald H. Helfferich, General Secretary for Service

Published by the Department of Interpretation for communication of news within the family of the UCBWM. All correspondence should be addressed to Mrs. Milton A. Case, Department of Interpretation, United Church Board for World Ministries 475 Riverside Drive, New York, N.Y. 10027

Citizen of the World A serious blow to the freedom movement in Mozambique was the assasination on February 3, 1969, in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, of Dr. Eduardo Mondlane, founder and leader of FRELIMO, Front for the Liberation of Mozambique, a merger of several nationalist groups.

The UCBWM at its February 4th, 1969, meeting in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, adopted a resolution recommended by Dr. John Reuling, General Secretary for Mission, expressing sympathy. The vote was:

"The United Church Board for World Ministries of the United Church of Christ expresses gratitude for the life of Dr. Eduardo Mondlane, for his service to his country, for his example of steadfastness and courage, for his leadership and for his Christian witness to all mankind. This Board is proud to have had a small share in his training and to have been associated with him as a student, as a worthy staff member of the United Nations, as a member of the faculty of a great university and as a far seeing leader of his people in their struggle for freedom. He excelled and excited the admiration and love of many.

We sorrow over his tragic death and extend to his wife, Janet, and their children our deepest sympathy."

In 1946 Dr. Mondlane was an outstanding student in the Jan Hofmeyr School for Social Work in Johannesburg, one of the Board's institutions. The late Dr. Ray Phillips, an outstanding African missionary, considered him to be the finest student he had ever had. Dr. Mondlane has had personal and deep contact with the Board from that time up through his extended and distinguished career of study, his work at the U.N. and as a teacher of anthropology at Syracuse University and his latter days as head of the Mozambique freedom movement. The Rev. Edward A. Hawley, UCBWM missionary, who conducted the funeral services at the Azania Front Lutheran Church, Dar es Salaam, was a long time friend of Dr. Mondlane in the United States. It was Dr.Mondlane who had inspired Mr. and Mrs. Hawley to go to Tanzania as missionaries.

In the sermon at his funeral, Mr. Hawley said of him,"He was truly a citizen of the world. He transcended the barriers that divide men in our age, understanding and caring for the peoples of East and West, while hating injustice wherever it occurred."

The Rev. N. Sithole Gets 6-Year Term A former Congregational minister of the United Church of Christ in Rhodesia, now a Rhodesian nationalist leader, the Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole has been sentenced to six years' imprisonment at hard labor for allegedly conspiring, from his prison cell, to murder Rhodesia's Prime Minister Ian Smith.

He had already been held without trial since 1964 for "dangerous" political activities.

Mr. Sithole had no formal education until he found his way to a Disciples mission primary school. He then became a teacher and while working full time at this studied privately and passed official examinations, first for high school and then for his B.A. degree. While a teacher at Mt. Silinda he committed himself to the full-time Christian ministry and after a few years came to the United States where he studied and received the Bachelor of Divinity degree from Andover Newton Theological School. On his return to Mt. Silinda where he served as chaplain, pastor and teacher until the plight of his people forced him, on grounds of conscience, to be involved full time in nationalist politics.

Nonviolence is not a symbol of weakness or cowardice, but as Jesus demonstrated, nonviolence resistance transforms weakness into strength and breeds courage in the face of danger.

--- Martin Luther King

LATIN AMERICA

Church Prepares for 50th Anniversary

Celebrations, reunions, and most of all a time for praising God with gratitude for what is part of the past, as well as a promising look to the future; these events will highlight the 50th anniversary of the Evangelical and Reformed Church in Honduras. The celebration will begin in February 1971 and plans are now underway to realize the goals set forth.

Some of the goals hopefully to be reached by 1971 are the presence of 25 organized congregations with 1,500 members and the construction of more church buildings and parsonages. At present there are 20 organized churches and several other preaching points and somewhat more than 1,000 members.

Plans call for writing a history of the church both in Spanish and English. The Evangelical and Reformed mission is the third oldest in Honduras. The presence of visitors will enhance the anniversary clebration. Pictures are being sought to illustrate the 50-year history.

Seminary Holds Convocation

"Factors in the Growth of the Evangelical Church in Latin America" was the theme which highlighted the Annual Convocation of the Theological Institute late last November in San Pedro Sula.

Not only full-time residence students, but part-time students from every level of the institute's new multi-level program of theological education attended the weekend of special classes and the Saturday evening worship service. A host of interested laymen augmented their number.

Music from the choirs of the churches in Puerto Cortes and El Progreso, as well as the theological institute's own quartet combined with the message delivered by Prof. Victor Monterroso to make a memorable evening. His theme was "Church Growth through Theological Education." Prof. Monterroso is a member of the faculty of the Latin Americ Biblical Seminary in Costa Rica.

NEAR EAST

Talas Clinic Reopened

The last days of March, 1969 brought some special activity at the Talas School campus and the Talas Clinic. Dr. and Mrs. William Mathews drove from Gaziantep where they had been in language study to Talas on March 16 and Nurse Isabel Hemingway arrived March 21 to make prepartions to reopen the Clinic on April 1. An interesting new possibility comes with the announcement that Hacettepe University will open a branch of the School of Medicine on the road between Kayseri and Talas in the next few years. We hope that new possibilities for cooperation between the Clinc and the Medical School can be beneficial to the work of both.

Near East Holy Land Tour

The Rev. and Mrs. Merrill N. Isely of Claremont, California, are conducting a tour of the Near East for the United Church of Christ. The tour leaves Philadelphia on April 15th for Copenhagen and will include Cairo, Lebanon, the Holy Land and Turkey. The Iselys will return by September.

Mr. Isely, UCBWM missionary (1920-62), was business manager of the Azariah Smith Memorial Hospital, Gaziantep, and did considerable community work with the blind and in reforestation. Mrs. Isely was dietitian and nurse in the operating room at the hospital.

Social Service in Turkey

I write this after my first visit into the villages with the Social Service Club. The club consists of about 30 students in the Lise section of the Tarsus American College and two advisors including Hans Meyer and myself.

Our Social Service Club is involved in village life in the following ways: several students spend part of their Saturdays working on the building construction of "Fellowship House" a project under the sponsorship of the Dutch Government. "Fellowship House" will house students who cannot obtain a Lise education in their villages because of the lack of schools and/or distance to travel. They have to go to school in Tarsus, if they wish a high school education. The series of buildings located on the outskirts of Tarsus near the public high school will offer inexpensive room and board.

Other students are building a bridge which a village needs. There will be numerous activities for us to become involved in since so much in this area was destroyed by the flood. A little about the flood - luckily the school was saved. Since the flood hit during the Christmas vacation, the school was used as a haven for 150 refugees whose homes were heavily damaged. Roads were impassable for days. The school became the landing place for helicopters sent in by the government with an unexpected visit by the Vice President of the country. Things are almost back to normal in the town but the damages are heavy in many villages and with each rainstorm, we all breath heavily and hope that it lasts only a short time. And so Social Service has many upcoming projects all too numerous to mention.

The Bookmobile is one of the most active secions of our Social Service. I am in charge of this. We rise early on Saturday morning and after a quick breakfast, load the car with books from the Social Service Library. The rest of the VW bus is filled with students. I man the wheel and horn and we are on our way by 9 oclock Insallah (With luck!). Soon we are out of Tarsus on our way to three villages located on the road to Namrun, a village high in the mountains. I invariably miss my turn on to a narrow dirt and rock road that leads to the small village. Dodging donkeys, we arrive at the school, which is one room and an office, but impeccably clean. We are greeted by the teacher, and the studens gaze eagerly at us as we transact the business of filling out cards and distributing books. After a generous dose of Limon cologne and a cigarette, we rush to the next village, close to the mountains, many kilometers away. This is a much larger school with four rooms. A visit to the primary room is a must for me as I can look at all the words in Turkish and become even more depressed over my lack of language. The last village is still farther on and requires the most time. After the delivery of the books that are on loan from two weeks to a month and with a periodic gift of books, the day has come to an end and we hurried back to campus. Such is the type of work carried on by Social Service here at Tarsus.

--- Excerpts from a letter from Mr. Richard C. Cable, Tarsus, Turkey.

Talas School Property Sold

On March 18 the Talas School property was sold and that night the governor of Kayseri honored the five Board representatives at a dinner which included the highest officials of the vilayet. The Rev. Harold Schoup, Rev. Melvin Wittler and the Mission lawyer were there from Istanbul; Mr.Garabet Topakbas, long-time business manager at Talas, and Dr. William Mathews were there also. All were glad that this could provide such an auspicious introduction of Dr. Mathews to the community in Talas. The present governor who spent several years in the United States studying public administration is a good friend to have. It is he who was the purchaser of the Talas School property on behalf of the Kayseri vilayet. When the school was closed the Mission had hoped that the property could in some way be used to continue a contribution to Turkish society . The school buildings will be used for an orphanage or an old folks home.

A S I A

Food for Work We have been spending a great deal of time planning and surveying for the next dry season and another full load of "food for work" projects, adult literacy classes, kitchen garden wells and our tractor program. We have planned about 20 "food for work" dams and roads for 1969. The interest is even higher than last year with over 120 villages requesting projects.

The women's work program held three camps for village girls ages 14-16 from October through December. The girls came together in groups of ten for two weeks each for instruction in new methods of cooking, budgeting, home handicrafts, adult literacy and home science.

We are happy to report that all the dams built in 1968 are still intact. The rains were not heavy until near the end which worked very much to our benefit because the soil had a chance to settle before the dams filled up. About 9,000 fish were planted, divided among three of the lakes impounded by the earth dams. Several villages were able to use the water collected to give irrigation to the rice crop during the midmonsoon season when the rain stopped for some time. One of the lakes had water to a depth of 18 feet and the government development people went to see the results of that dam themselves.

We will have a volunteer to help in our program of "food for work" projects until June 1969. He is Dr. Menon, who is an Indian national. He received his Ph.D. in mathematics from Ohio State and has returned to India for a visit on leave of absence from the University of Missouri. He will be responsible for actual distribution of the food grains. His help will relieve some of the pressures we find ourselves under during the dry season when everything wants to happen at once.

--- Excerpts from a letter from Mr. and Mrs.D.Douglas Schneider, India.

AFPRO'S Life Extended to 1972 Forty-two representatives of the major international service agencies - Roman Catholic, Protestant and secular - who met in New Delhi, India in mid-November 1968, recorded their intention to recommend support of AFPRO through 1972.

AFPRO (Action for Food Production in India) is an inter-faith body that is working to promote agricultural development in the sub-continent. When it was set up early in 1966 for a three-year term, it was described as an "ecumenical breakthrough." Those attending agreed that adequate agricultural development in India must largely depend on irrigation, especially from new underground water resources.

AFPRO is currently operating 27 new well-drilling rigs and 30 blasting units in nine states that are seriously short of water.

In addition, AFPRO has imported and distributed 5,350 tons of fertilizer through church-related and voluntary agency projects and cooperatives.

It has sponsored six poultry projects for the improvement of poultry management including feed, equipment, processing, and marketing; and has conducted 12 courses, each lasting from three days to three months, in which 920 Indian nationals and overseas volunteers have received training in well-drilling techniques, machine maintenance, poultry management, horticulture, nutrition, extension education and project management.

Refugees in Assam Become Weavers Refugee farmers who have found sanctuary in Assam have each been allotted two acres of land with which to earn their living. Because of the dearth of agricultural land, this is the maximum holding of a farm and to make them free from economic difficulties, CASA (The Christian Social Agency) for Social Action of the

National Christian Council of India decided to train the farmers' wives and grown up daughters in weaving so that eventually they will be able to supplement the family income. Four weaving centers were set up at Tipkai, Gobardhan, Garobadha, and Williampur.

Each weaving center has been equipped with 20 looms, and 20 trainees are taking part at each of the four centers in one-year courses. The total number of women presently undergoing training is 80.

The trainees are already producing sarees, bed-covers, tableclothes, and other goods which are sold in local markets. Finished goods are sold through shops which are supervised by members of the Mothers' Union and the CASA Welfare Officer.

It is proposed that when the women have completed their training some of them will be absorbed in running the production centers which, hopefully will become self-supporting within six months. The others will each be given a handloom to enable them to set up as weavers in their own homes and produce cloth articles for sale in the local markets.

Talks on Mission Between Japanese and North American Churchmen — During February National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. leaders with Asia responsibilities, and executives of related mission boards met with Japan National Christian Council and Council of Cooperation representatives.

COC — Taking the theme "The Christian Confrontation with Modern Society," 60 persons - one of whom was the Rev. Paul R. Gregory, Pacific Regional Secretary, UCBWM, attended the 6th Council of Cooperation Consultation at Tozanso, Japan, February 11-14. Participants were representatives and secretaries of the United Church of Japan, representatives from the Christian Social Work League and the Inter-Board Committee-related Schools Council, and missionary and "home office" representatives of North American Mission boards and observers.

Among the recommendations going from the Consultation to the COC Executive Committee for further consideration and action were: a research project to "restudy the meaning of education in modern society;" study of the establishment of a personnel committee to handle various matters related to missionary personnel; joint study, in Japan and North America, of common problems, such as the China problem, the reversion of Okinawa; the U,S. - Japan Mutual Security Treaty, nonviolence; broadening the exchange of personnel between North America and Japan to include persons in a wide range of vocations and institutional relationships; and study of closer relations between Christian schools and the church, on the one hand, and between Christian social work institutions and the church, on the other.

* * * * *

NCC — The Rev. B. Kenneth Anthony, Associate General Secretary for Service, UCBWM, and chairman of the East Asia Department of the Division of Overseas Ministries, NCC; the Rev. Paul R. Gregory; and secretaries Edwin Luidens and Wallace Merwin of the East Asia Department, along with four other mission board executives, met on February 17 with personnel of the National Christian Council of Japan. This was to hear progress reports on the restructuring recommended by the Mission in Unity Consultation of March 1967.

Dr. In Ha Lee, executive secretary of the NCCJ, explained that the present emphasis of Japanese churches on self-reliance, while good in itself, put a strain on church resources; this makes it difficult for them to underwrite a large portion of NCCJ expenses.

Dr. Masahisa Suzuki, Moderator of the United Church of Japan with which the UCC/USA has strong ties, declared that although in the past it has sometimes been felt that the National Christian Council is not necessary, the Episcopalian, Lutheran and Baptist leaders, whose churches are not in the United Church but have developed strength in recent years, have come more and more to realize that ecumenical action needs some place in which to have dialogue. "We believe this place to be the National Christian Council of Japan, he said.

U N I T E D S T A T E S

CWS Closes Receiving Center Church World Service will close its New York Clothing Receiving Center, July 1 in an economy move. Other centers at Denver, Pasadena, and Vancouver will also close on the same date. Clothing and relief supplies will continue to be collected from established local depots by scheduled semi-annual truck visits as presently practiced in most areas. The St.Louis Receiving Center will continue.

The larger processing centers at New Windsor, Maryland; Nappanee, Indiana; Modesto, California; and Houston, Texas readily make shipments from all ports on the east and west coasts, gulf and lake ports. CWS now feels that processing of relief supplies in warehouses with access to ports, will be an economy.

For the past 15 years the UCBWM-CWS operated its joint warehouse in New York City. One year as much as a million pounds of clothing came to this warehouse. In recent years, trailer truck operations direct to the New Windsor processing center lessened the New York warehouse work load.

In March the New York warehouse made the following shipments directly to the world's needy people:

a) medical supplies - 6,000 pounds - value $34,000 to Oddanchatram Fellowship Hospital in India;
b) agricultural supplies - 2,500 pounds - value $1,000 to Yendi Farm School in Ghana;
c) school supplies - 260 pounds - value $1,000 to Ghana;
d) sewing supplies and layettes - 4,000 pounds - value $22,000 to Arab refugees in Middle East;
e) hospital supplies and bandages - 6,600 pounds - value $4,300 to Indian hospitals;
f) health, sewing and school supplies - 4,700 pounds - value $2,700 for distribution in Malawi.

UCBWM's Shipments The 58-day longshoremen's strike meant chaos for most east coast and gulf coast warehouses. At the Board's warehouse shipments piled up. Even large baggage shipments for Dr. Richard Riesz in India and the Noel Bishops at Inanda Seminary, although on the piers before the strike deadline, did not get off. The final days before the strike, longshoremen were on a "slowdown." Result : delays of more than two months!

Other shipments stacked up in warehouse Since the strike ended in New York on February 18 the warehouse has delivered to the piers the following missionaries' baggage shipments to eager owners!

a) Mrs. Challes Beckley who left for Rhodesia, January 26;
b) David Trumbull returned to join his family in South Africa, January 29;
c) Mrs. Helen Tomkins returned to Lome, Togo, December 31;
d) Dr. Ruth Catton returned to India, February 2;
e) Dr. William Mathews went to Turkey, October 20;
f) Miss Isabel Hemingway returned to Turkey, September 25;
g) Miss Karin Fishbeck left for Rhodesia, February 24;
h) Dr. Kirk Stetson returned to Rhodesia, December 29.

Shipped in March

a) Institutional shipment for schools in Turkey;
b) institutional shipment for Gaziantep Hospital, Turkey;
c) equipment for the Rev. Myron Ross, Japan;
d) baggage for the Rev. Daniel Francis, a National returning to India.

The above missionary and institutional shipments totaled 121 boxes, weighed 24,000 pounds and were valued at $27,000.

-- Rev.Walter C. Tong, Director of UCBWM Transportation and Purchasing.

News from Treasury At a recent meeting of the Board of Directors of the UCBWM, Dr. Everett A. Babcock, the Treasurer, presented a tentative Treasurer's Report for the year 1968 stressing the fact that the figures might change slightly and, of course, were as yet unaudited. Total receipts for the 1968 budget program were estimated at $5,608,718. He noted that Second Mile gifts showed an increase over 1967 of about $14,000 whereas Directed Gifts appeared to have a decrease of about $11,000. Gifts from individuals were about $2,000 higher than in 1967 even though the Summer Appeal produced about $4,300 more than in 1967. The income from Invested Funds for budget support showed an increase of about $13,000 whereas the Family Thank Offering decreased approximately $18,000.

The Treasurer indicated that disbursements for the year 1968 would be approximately $6,046,431 and that there would be a budget deficit for the year of about $437,713. Thirty-two legacies were received during 1968 and with additions to existing legacies, these totaled $216,730. Of these, $185,169 were unrestricted. Twenty-six new Conditional Gift Agreements were signed during 1968 for a total amount of $76,493. Included in the receipts to the Current Program budget is the OGHS-SOS Offering which produced $822,839 after promotion costs had been deducted by the Treasurer of the United Church. Designated extra budget gifts for the Biafra Relief Fund totaled $77,389.98. Although there has been no continued promotion of the India Famine Appeal, $12,812.47 was received for extra budget purposes and the Near East Emergency Appeal received in 1968, $4,449.17. The Treasurer relayed from the Treasurer of the United Church of Christ the fact that total Basic Support receipts for 1948 decreased from 1967 by $101,518.26. Of this, national Basic Support received $17,757.74 less than in 1967 and the Conferences had a decrease of $83,760.52

UCBWM Annual Meeting The Annual Meeting of the UCBWM will be held in Allentown, Pa., November 9-12,1969. St. John's Church, Allentown with the Rev. Grant E. Harrity, pastor, will be the host church. Other churches in the Allentown area will provide assistance.

Mr. Searles Resigns Mr. William H. Searles' resignation as Assistant Treasurer of the UCBWM was accepted April 8, 1969 to be effective April 30.

Mr. Searles is returning to the "business world" and has accepted a position with the Champion Spark Plug Co. in Toledo, Ohio. He has been in the Treasury Division of the Board since 1962 and has been a valuable staff member not only in the Treasury Division but in the program and life of the whole Board. His resignation is regretted by all who have worked with him and we wish him every satisfaction as he seeks to bring Christian concerns to life in the context of secular business.

Everett A. Babcock

Farewell to Mildred Fitts Dear Friends:
"I have your letter of such and such" is going to end and I imagine I will be lost without it; and I hope that possibly you will miss it too!

Tempus fugits and the nearness of my three score years and ten has been brought to my attention. The place for the golden years is not New York City, so I must hie myself back to Massachusetts and establish a home where there are a few roots left. The planters have long since gone but the seed is still there. I need the ocean, so I am going to be on Cape Cod where I can see it, smell it, and walk by it, daily! I suspect I will have to have a dog, to complete the picture, with a cat sitting at home in the window. There will be two fireplaces, so do join me around the hearth in the kitchen. The old Adams table (John Quincy, that is), will be there and always a cup of tea. My address is Sears Road, East Brewster.

Thank you for letting me serve you and visit you on the field. Carry on and I will still be with you, though in a different capacity. Memorial Day will see me off!

With every good wish to each and every one of you, with my fond regards,

(Signed) Mildred P. Fitts

C H R O N I C L E

ARRIVALS FROM THE FIELD

RHODESIA

Mr. and Mrs. (R.N.) Robin L. Markham of Chikore and their four daughters, for terminal furlough on February 23, 1969. Mr. and Mrs. Markham served in Angola for two terms and have been associated with the Chikore Secondary School in Rhodesia since 1964. A teacher of mathematics, including algebra, geometry and trigonometry, Robin Markham has also headed the intra-mural sports program. Frances Markham taught English grammar and served as school librarian.

Dr. and Mrs. Robert P. Nelson of Grove City, Minnesota, and their daughter, on March 23, 1969, on the completion of six months of medical services at the Willis F. Pierce Memorial Hospital at Mt. Silinda.

The Rev. Herbert B. Perry, Jr., of Salisbury, in the church renewal program in Rhodesia, on February 7, 1969, for family health reasons. Mrs. Perry and their two younger children will join him in April for a period of furlough.

DEPARTURES FOR THE FIELD

INDIA

Ruth W. Catton, M.D., formerly of St. Martin's Hospital in Ramnad, South India, on February 2, 1969, returning from furlough to Baitalpur, Raipur District, Central India, to direct a family planning clinic there.

JAPAN

Miss Eleanore A. Hire, on March 29, 1969, returning from furlough to rejoin the faculty of Kassui Junior College for Women in Nagasaki, where she is a teacher of piano and related subjects.

TURKEY

Miss Isabel Hemingway, R.N., C.N.M., formerly of the Azariah Smith Memorial Hospital in Gaziantep, on March 10, 1969, returning from a six-month furlough to the Talas Nute Clinic in Talas where she served earlier for seven years.

DEPARTURE OF A NEW APPOINTEE

RHODESIA

Miss Karin Lee Fishbeck of Michigan City, Indiana (until recently of Rochester, N.Y.), on February 24, 1969, for a Short Term of three years as a teacher of English at Mt. Silinda Institute. She is a niece of Dr. Berwyn Woodman, formerly of the Angola Mission.

BIRTH

To the Rev. and Mrs. Armin L. Schmidt of the Philippines, now on furlough, a son, Frederick Michael, on March 12, 1969 at the Tompkins Memorial Hospital in Ithaca, New York.

MARRIAGE

Joan L. Yancey of Hokuriku Gakuin, Kanazawa, Japan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William D. Yancey of North Swansea, Massachusetts, became Mrs. Peter Carlson on March 20, 1969 and terminated her service. On short-term assignment since September 1967, she was a teacher of English at the junior and senior high schools at Hokuriku.

DEATHS

Mrs. Emily Ray Block of Pilgrim Place, Claremont, California, in service in Turkey under the Near East Relief and the Board for thirty-four years (1919-1953), died at the McCabe Rest Home in Claremont on March 10, 1969 at the age of 87.

Emily Block was born in London and educated in public and private schools in England. Family ties were lost early, and after living with relatives for some years she came to the United States in 1899, at about age eighteen, through the help of an American friend and adopted this country as her own.

In 1907, in New York City, she married Dr. David Eugene Block, a veterinarian and a good business man, who provided her with a comfortable home in Buffalo, with social and cultural advantages. The only son born to them died in childhood, and Dr. Block himself died suddenly in 1916, leaving her once more without home roots. During World War I she lost a brother also. Her response to personal sorrow was a desire to engage in useful service, and, following a year of study at Gordon Bible College in the Boston area, she joined a Near East Relief team for Turkey in 1919 and met human need there under NER for six years. Her first furlough in 1927-28 was spent in study at the Kennedy School of Missions in Hartford.

After one year in relief work in Adana, Mrs. Block was stationed in Tarsus, so that her association with Board work and personnel in Turkey began almost immediately. Upon the withdrawal of NER forces in 1925, Emily Block received missionary appointment on the field and continued her service as matron and teacher at Tarsus American College until 1929, and at the Boys' School in Talas until her retirement. When she stopped teaching in Talas, she devoted the time to the care of missionary children in the station. She was particularly close to the Paul Nilson family, making a home for their two younger daughters during their studies in Beirut and Istanbul, releasing Mrs. Nilson's time for the Talas School.

In both Tarsus and Talas Mrs. Block was greatly loved and respected by her "boys." In the dormitory, the dining room, or the infirmary, where she had major contact with them, the boys were under strict discipline; yet, through it all she was able to communicate her genuine interest and love to the boys, and they understood. When the boys returned to Talas as grown men, she was one they invariably inquired about. The school was dear to her heart and was on her monthly calendar of giving until it closed in 1967.

Emily Block's zest for life and fun, and her happy disposition were contagious. If great opportunities did not come her way, she excelled in the performance of the important lesser things. Two Near East colleagues took part in the memorial service on March 13 at Todd Memorial Chapel in Claremont. The Rev. Walter B. Wiley officiated, and Dr. William Nute, Sr., a close Talas associate, voiced for all the essence of her life as follows:

> "Emily's was a life of sharing and service; of love and appreciation. She always minimized any kindness she had shown, and magnified anything done for her . . . Love was her power; sharing was her passion. They endured to the end . . ."

DEATHS

Lois Chandler Gilbert (Mrs. Lewis L.) of Cambridge, Massachusetts, a former missionary of the Board in North China with her husband, Lewis Gilbert, from 1929-1941, and in close relationship with the Board through 1947, died at the Newton Wellesley Hospital in Newton Lower Falls on March 20, 1969 at the age of 69.

A daughter of the Manse and born in Waterbury Center, Vermont, Lois Gilbert was graduated from Bates College (B.A. 1921), and after taking a summer course at the YWCA National Training School, she went into "Y" work for a year and taught for two years before her marriage in 1924 to Lewis Gilbert, a Yale Divinity School graduate. Following their marriage he was YMCA secretary at Bates and Yale, they served for two years under Yale-in-China, and were in the ministry in Columbus, Ohio, for another two years before they joined the North China Mission in 1929 with their two young sons. Two daughters were born to them in China. The family solidarity and happy relationships evident today are a tribute to her as a mother and homemaker.

After language study in Peking, the Gilberts were assigned to general evangelistic and youth work in Lintsing and Tehchow. With a family of four growing children Lois Gilbert made her major impact through the gracious hospitality and Christian atmosphere of her home, helping at the same time her Chinese neighbors and friends in their home and church life. Her friendliness and quiet strength were assets in all situations. Due to threatening war clouds Mrs. Gilbert and the children returned to the United States in late 1940; Mr. Gilbert joined them in 1941 after a year's service in Tunghsien.

In the key positions Dr. Gilbert has held since then in the ministry in Congregational Christian Churches in Cambridge, Providence, and Burlington, as a member of the Ohio Conference executive staff for two periods, and in Boston as executive secretary of the Board of Pastoral Supply of the Congregational Christian Churches, Lois Gilbert has ably supported and assisted her husband in missionary education and women's work programs, and in the total program of the Christian world mission.

The Rev. Dr. Darley Downs, missionary in Japan for 45 years (1919-1964), died in the Margaret R. Pardee Memorial Hospital in Hendersonville, North Carolina, on March 29, 1969. He was stricken with a heart attack while he and Mrs. Downs were traveling from Florida, where they had been vacationing, to their home in Waverly, Ohio. He was 74 years old.

Dr. Downs began his missionary service in 1919 in Kyoto where he studied Japanese and then taught at the Doshisha Middle School. In 1923 he married the former Lucille Jarrard of Pontiac, Michigan, who was then serving under the Methodist mission board at its publishing house in Tokyo. In 1929 he became director of the School of Japanese Language and Culture in Tokyo. For more than 20 years he served as Mission Secretary.

While on temporary assignment in the Philippines in 1941, he was interned by the Japanese for four years. In five different internment camps he served as liaison between internees and Japanese authorities. Mrs. Downs returned to the U.S. with their three children early in the war and escaped internment. They were able to return to Japan in 1947.

Dr. Downs played a key role in the establishment (1948) of the eight-denomination Interboard Committee for Christian Work in Japan and was active in it for 15 years. He served as the first English secretary of the Council of Cooperation, acting as liaison between the member mission boards of the Interboard Committee and the 200,000-member United Church of Christ in Japan. He also worked tirelessly in developing the National Christian Council of Japan.

Following their return to the U.S. for retirement in 1963, Dr. Downs served for a year on the staff of the Missionary Orientation Center, Stony Point, New York and more than a year in the New York offices of the Board as special assistant for relationships with retired missionaries.

In October 1968 Dr. and Mrs. Downs returned to Japan to attend the 20th anniversary celebration of the founding of the Council of Cooperation. At this time he and Mrs. Downs were each awarded a decoration from the emperor. Dr. Downs received the Third Class Order of the Sacred Treasure and Mrs. Downs received the Fifth Class Order of the Sacred Treasure.

Darley was born in Manitou, Colorado, on April 8, 1894. In 1917 he received a B.A. degree from Denver University and a Bachelor of Divinity degree from the Iliff School of Theology (Denver University). He received a Master of Sacred Theology degree from Union Theological Seminary in 1946 and also studied at Chicago Theological Seminary. He was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree by Olivet College, Olivet, Michigan, in 1952, and by Doshisha University, Kyoto, Japan, in 1963.

Memorial services were held in First United Church of Christ, Waverly, Ohio on April 2. Rev. Emil Menzel, interim pastor and former UCBWM missionary to India, was in charge. Among those attending from the New York office were Rev. Paul Gregory, Mr. John Fairfield and Rev. and Mrs. Walter Tong.

Mrs. Downs received many messages of sympathy from friends and organizations in Japan and this country.

In addition to his widow Dr. Downs is survived by two sons, Allison J. Downs, Baltimore, Maryland, and Ray F. Downs, Tokyo; a daughter, Mrs. John A. Taft, Jr., St. Charles, Illinois, nine grandchildren, and a sister, Constance Downs, Buena Vista, Colorado.

** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** ** **

SPECIAL NOTE: The Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the UCBWM on April 8, 1969 elected Mr. John F. Fairfield as an Assistant Treasurer. Mr. Fairfield will assume most of Mr. William Searles' responsibilities when Mr. Searles leaves on April 30. He will also care for the personal accounts of the missionaries which have been handled by Miss Mildred Fitts, after she leaves the Board on May 31.

Mr. Fairfield was field treasurer of the Interboard Committee for Christian Work in Japan. He was first appointed to Foochow, China. Mr. Fairfield, a second-generation missionary, is the son of the late Rev. Dr. Wynn C. Fairfield and Mrs. Daisie Fairfield.